

STEADIER HOG MARKETS PLANNED

Hog Producers and Packers Confer With Representatives of the Food Administration and Agricultural Department and Adopt New Plan of Regulation.

In accordance with the policy of the Food Administration since its foundation to consult representative men in the agricultural industry on occasions of importance to special branches of the industry, on October 24 there was convened in Washington a meeting of the Live Stock Subcommittee of the Agricultural Advisory Board and the special members representing the swine industry to consider the situation in the hog market.

The conference lasted for three days, and during this time met with the executive committee of the fifty packing firms participating in foreign orders for pork products and with the members of the Food Administration directing foreign pork purchases.

The conclusions of the conference were as follows:

The entire marketing situation has so changed since the September joint conference as to necessitate an entire alteration in the plans of price stabilization. The current peace talk has alarmed the holders of corn, and there has been a price decline of from 25 cents to 40 cents per bushel. The fact that the accumulations of low priced corn in the Argentine and South Africa would, upon the advent of peace and liberated shipping, become available to the European market has created a great deal of apprehension on the part of corn holders. This decline has spread fear among swine growers that a similar reduction in the prices of hogs would naturally follow. Moreover, the lower range of corn prices would, if incorporated in a 13-to-1 ratio, obviously result in a continuously falling price for live hogs. In view of these changed conditions many swine producers anticipated lower prices and as a result rushed their hogs to market in large numbers, and this overabundance has added to and aggravated the decline.

The information of the Department of Agriculture indicates that the supply of hogs has increased about 8 per cent, while the highest unofficial estimate does not exceed 15 per cent. Increased production over last year. On the other hand, the arrival of hogs during the last three weeks in the seven great markets has been 27 per cent. more than last year, during the corresponding period, demonstrating the unusually heavy marketing of the available supply. In the face of the excessive receipts some packers have not maintained the price agreed last month. On the other hand, many of the packers have paid over the price offered to them in an endeavor to maintain the agreed price. The result in any event has been a failure to maintain the October price basis determined upon at the September conference and undertaken by the packers. Another factor contributing to the break in prices during the month has been the influenza epidemic; it has sharply curtailed consumption of pork products and temporarily decreased the labor staff of the packers about 25 per cent.

The exports of 130,000,000 pounds of pork products for October compared with about 52,000,000 pounds in October a year ago, and the export orders placeable by the Food Administration for November, amount to 170,000,000 pounds as contrasted with the lesser exports of 98,000,000 for November, 1917. The increased demands of the allies are continuing, and are in themselves proof of the necessity for the large production for which the Food Administration asked. The increase in export demands appears to be amply sufficient to take up the increase in hog production, but unfavorable market conditions existing in October afford no fair index of the aggregate supply and demand.

It must be evident that the enormous shortage in fats in the Central Empire and neutral countries would immediately upon peace result in additional demands for pork products which, on top of the heavy shipments to the Allies, would tend materially to increase the American exports, inasmuch as no considerable reservoir of supplies exists outside of the United States. It seems probable that the present prospective supplies would be inadequate to meet this world demand with the return to peace. So far as it is possible to interpret this fact, it appears that there should be, even a stronger demand for pork products after the war, and therefore any alarm of hog producers as to the effect of peace is unwarranted by the outlook.

In the light of these circumstances it is the conclusion of the conference that attempts to hold the price of hogs to the price of corn may work out to the disadvantage of pork producers. It is the conclusion that any interpretation of the formula should be a broad ranged policy applied over a long period. It is the opinion of the conference that in substitution of the previous plans of stabilization the Live Stock Subcommittee of the Agricultural Advisory Board, together with the specially invited swine representatives, should accept the invitation of the Food Administration to join with the Agricultural Department and the packers in determining the prices at which contracted orders are to be placed, and that this be regularly done. The influence of these plans will be directed by the subcommittee of the agricultural advisory board, the representatives of the swine industry, and the representatives of the packers, and the Food Administration will be kept advised of the situation.

producer and the insurance of an adequate future supply.

These foreign orders are placed upon the basis of cost of hogs to the packers.

As the result of long negotiations between this body and the Packers' Committee, representing the 45 to 50 packers participating in foreign orders, together with the Allied buyers, all under the Chairmanship of the Food Administration, the following undertaking has been given by the packers:

In view of the undertakings on the part of the Food Administration with regard to the co-ordinated purchases of pork products, covered in the attached, it is agreed that the packers participating in these orders will undertake not to purchase hogs for less than the following agreed minimums for the month of November, that is a daily minimum of \$17.50 per hundred pounds on average of packers' droves, excluding throw-outs. "Throw-outs" to be defined as pigs under 130 pounds, stags, boars, thin sows and skips. Further, that no hogs of any kind shall be bought, except throw-outs, at less than \$10.50 per hundred pounds. The average of packers' droves to be construed as the average of the total sales in the market of all hogs for a given day. All the above to be based on Chicago.

We agree that a committee shall be appointed by the Food Administration to check the daily operations in the various markets with a view to supervision and demonstration of the carrying out of the above.

The ability of the packers to carry out this arrangement will depend on there being a normal marketing of hogs based upon the proportionate increase over the receipts of last year. The increase in production appears to be a maximum of about 15 per cent. and we can handle such an increase.

If the producers of hogs should, as they have in the past few weeks, prematurely market hogs in such increasing numbers over the above it is entirely beyond the ability of the packers to maintain these minimums, and therefore we must have the co-operation of the producer himself to maintain these results. It is a physical impossibility for the capacity of the packing houses to handle a similar over-flood of hogs and to find a market for the output. The packers are anxious to co-operate with the producers in maintaining a stabilization of price and to see that producers receive a fair price for their products.

(Signed) THOS. E. WILSON, Chairman Packers' Committee.

The plan embodied above was adopted by the conference.

The Food Administrator has appointed a committee, comprising Mr. Thomas E. Wilson, chairman of the Packers' Committee; Mr. Everett Brown, president of the Chicago Livestock Exchange; Major Roy of the Food Administration; Mr. Louis D. Hall of the Bureau of Markets, to undertake the supervision of the execution of the plan in the various markets. Commission men are asked to co-operate in carrying out the plan embodied in the packers' agreement. It must be evident that offers by commission men to sell hogs below the minimum established above is not fair, either to the producer or the participating packers. Mr. Brown has undertaken on behalf of the commission men in the United States that they will loyally support the plan.

It is believed by the conference that this new plan, based as it is upon a positive minimum basis, will bring better results to the producer than average prices for the month. It does not limit top prices and should narrow the margins necessary to country buyers in more variable markets. It is believed that the plan should work out close to \$18 average.

Swine producers of the country will contribute to their own interest by not flooding the market, for it must be evident that if an excessive over percentage of hogs is marketed in any one month price stabilization and control cannot succeed, and it is certain that producers themselves can contribute materially to the efforts of the conference if they will do their marketing in as normal a way as possible.

The whole situation as existing at present demands a frank and explicit assurance from the conference represented—namely, that every possible effort will be made to maintain a live hog price commensurate with swine production costs and reasonable selling values in execution of the declared policy of the Food Administration to see every agency in its control to secure justice to the farmer.

The stabilization methods adopted by the conference represent the best of the efforts of the conference, occurred in the past, and the Food Administration will be kept advised of the situation.

Livestock Subcommittee of the Agricultural Advisory Board, together with special swine members and the representatives of the packers, to improve the present unsatisfactory situation, which has unfortunately resulted because of the injection of uncontrollable factors.

We ask the producer to co-operate with us in a most difficult task.

The members of the conference were:

Producers—H. C. Stuart, Elk Garden, Va., Chairman Agricultural Advisory Board; W. M. McFadden, Chicago, Ill.; A. Sikes, Ida Grove, Ia.; John M. Evers, Ames, Ia.; J. H. Mercer, Live Stock Commission for Kansas; J. G. Brown, Monon, Ind.; E. C. Brown, President Chicago Livestock Exchange; N. H. Gentry, Sedalia, Mo.; John Grattan Broomfield, Colo.; Eugene Funk, Bloomington, Ill.; Isaac Lincoln, Aberdeen, S. D.; C. W. Hunt, Logan, Ia.; C. E. Vancey, W. R. Dodson.

Food Administration—Herbert Hoover, F. S. Snyder, Major E. L. Roy, G. H. Powell.

Department of Agriculture—Louis D. Hall, F. R. Marshall.

The packers present and others sharing in foreign orders were represented by the elected packers' committee. Those represented were:

Packers—Armour & Co., Chicago, Ill.; Cudahy Packing Co., Chicago, Ill.; Morris & Co., Chicago, Ill.; Swift & Co., Chicago, Ill.; Wilson & Co., Chicago, Ill.; John Agar Co., Chicago, Ill.; Armstrong Packing Co., Dallas, Tex.; Boyd Dunham & Co., Chicago, Ill.; Brennan Packing Co., Chicago, Ill.; Cincinnati Abattoir Co., Cincinnati, O.; Cleveland Provisions Co., Cleveland, O.; Cudahy Bros. Co., Cudahy, Wis.; J. Dold Packing Co., Buffalo, N. Y.; Dunlevy Packing Co., Pittsburg, Pa.; J. E. Decker & Sons, Mason City, Ia.; Evansville Packing Co., Evansville, Ind.; East Side Packing Co., East St. Louis, Ill.; Hammond Standish & Co., Detroit, Mich.; G. A. Hornel & Co., Austin, Minn.; Home Packing & Ice Co., Terre Haute, Ind.; Independent Packing Co., Chicago, Ill.; Indianapolis Abattoir Co., Indianapolis, Ind.; International Provision Co., Brooklyn, N. Y.; Interstate Packing Co., Winona, Minn.; Iowa Packing Co., Des Moines, Ia.; Powers Begg Co., Jacksonville, Ill.; Kington & Co., Indianapolis, Ind.; Krey Packing Co., St. Louis, Mo.; Lake Erie Provision Co., Cleveland, O.; Layton Co., Milwaukee, Wis.; Oscar Mayer & Bro., Sedgewick and Beethoven streets, Chicago, Ill.; J. T. McMillan Co., St. Paul, Minn.; Miller & Hart, Chicago, Ill.; J. Morrell & Co., Ottumwa, Ia.; Nuckolls Packing Co., Pueblo, Colo.; Ogden Packing and Provision Co., Ogden, Utah; Ohio Provision Co., Cleveland, O.; Parker Webb & Co., Detroit, Mich.; Pittsburg Packing and Provision Co., Pittsburg, Pa.; Rath Packing Co., Waterloo, Ia.; Roberts & Oake, Chicago, Ill.; Rohe & Bros., New York City; W. C. Routh & Co., Logansport, Ind.; St. Louis Ind. Packing Co., St. Louis, Mo.; Sinclair & Co., Detroit, Mich.; Theurer-Norton Provision Co., Cleveland, O.; Western Provision Co., Peoria, Ill.; Western Packing and Provision Co., Chicago, Ill.; Charles Wolff Packing Co., Topeka, Kan.

British Submarines Sank 43 Big Warships During War.

London, November 16.—Details can now be given of the part which British submarines played during the war. This service destroyed the following enemy warships:

Two battleships, two armed cruisers, two light cruisers, seven destroyers, five gunboats, twenty submarines and five armed auxiliary vessels.

Three battleships and one light cruiser were torpedoed but reached port badly damaged.

Other enemy craft destroyed were: One Zeppelin, fourteen transports, six ammunition and supply ships, two store ships, fifty-three steamships, and 107 sailing ships.

In no case was a merchant ship sunk at sight. Care was taken to see that the crews got away safely.

In addition to carrying out their attacks on enemy warcraft, the submarines played an important part in convoy work.

On the third year of the war, one of the British submarine commanders carried out twenty-four cruises, totaling 22,000 miles, which probably constitutes a record for any submarine.

Press Censorship Has Been Repealed.

Washington, Nov. 14.—The voluntary censorship under which the press of this country guarded from the enemy the military policies, plans and troop movements of the United States government at war, was today repealed by the chairman of the committee on public information, as no longer necessary.

"The secretary of war and the secretary of the navy and all others concerned in this country's war efforts join in sincere acknowledgement of gratitude to the press of the United States," said a statement of the chairman, "Without force of law and no larger compulsion than their own patriotism, the overwhelming majority of the newspapers of the country have given unflinching obedience to every desire of the government and to matters of military secrecy, carrying with it a tremendous experiment in honor and trust."

Making of Pleasure Cars to Be Resumed.

Detroit, Mich., Nov. 14.—Manufacture of pleasure cars is soon to be resumed by the Ford plant, according to R. G. Lohd, general secretary to Henry Ford.

"We expect to resume the manufacture of pleasure cars as fast as we are released on war contracts now being fulfilled," said Mr. Lohd.

Public Sale

Having sold my farm I will sell at public auction at my farm, 10 miles west and 1 1/4 miles north of Butler or 1 1/4 miles north of Virginia on Thursday

December 5, '18

the following property

SALE TO BEGIN AT 10 O'CLOCK

HORSES

Brown mare, 7 years old, weight 1600; brown mare 9 years old, weight 1600; gray mare 10 years old, weight 1400; gray mare 11 years old, weight 1450; gray mare thirteen years old, bred to jack, weight about 1400; gray mare 6 years old, bred to jack, weight 1000; one bay yearling filly; mare colt an extra good one; 2 suckling mules.

CATTLE

Cow 7 years old; cow 6 years old; cow 6 years old with calf by side; cow, be 3 years old in spring; cow, be 3 years old in spring; cow be 3 years old in spring; cow be fresh in summer; red cow seven years old, giving one gallon milk per day, will be fresh February 1; red cow six years old, will be fresh by the first of the year; heifer will be fresh 1st of June; half Jersey, will be 2 years old in spring, be fresh in summer; polled Durham bull, 3 years old; 2 heifer calves.

HOGS

2 brood sows; hog, weight about 150 lbs.

Household Goods

Dining table; 6 chairs; Garland heating stove; Singer sewing machine Graphophone and 26 records; kitchen cabinet; 2 burner gasoline stove with oven; iron bed with springs and mattress; Grand 6 cap cook stove, good as new; number 18 Hot Blast heating stove; 10 foot dining table; 6 dining chairs; stand table; bedstead.

Farm Implements

Sayers & Scovill buggy in good shape; wagon with bed on; 16-inch walking plow; 14-foot hay frame; set of breeching harness; set of single harness; old farm wagon Stoughton wagon good as new; 12-inch Oliver gang plow, with 2 sets of shares, good as new; 16-inch walking plow; C. B. & O. corn planter with 80 rods of wire; 4 horse disc good as new; disc cultivator; Busy Bee cultivator; buggy; set single harness; set work harness.

TERMS.—On all sums of \$10 and under, cash. Over that amount a credit of 9 months' time will be given on bankable note to bear 8 per cent interest from date. 2 per cent discount for cash. No property to be removed until terms of sale are complied with.

LUNCH WILL BE SERVED BY THE LADIES OF THE VIRGINIA M. E. CHURCH

J. D. Hayden

Auctioneers: COL. C. E. ROBBINS and COL. L. A. POTEET

R. R. HAMILTON, Clerk

AMERICAN ROYAL IS TO SET NEW RECORD

1918 Show Will Bring Out Best Cattle Ever Put on Exhibition at Kansas City.

The 1918 American Royal Live Stock Show which is to be held at the Kansas City Stock Yards November 16th to 23rd will set new records just as the Kansas City live stock market has been setting new records for the world during 1918. The attendance on the 1918 American Royal promises to be the best of the entire 20 years the American Royal has been in existence.

The number of cattle will be the largest yet shown and the value of all cattle shown will be well in excess of a half million dollars, and probably in excess of three-quarter million dollars.

Kansas City, in addition to being the largest stocker and feeder market in the world, and holding the world's cattle receipts at stock yards for any day and week and month, also holds the record for being the greatest clearing house for pure bred cattle of any place in the world. There are more pure bred cattle herds within a radius of 100 miles from Kansas City not only the greatest beef cattle market in the world but the greatest pure bred producing and marketing section of the world.

The American Royal live stock show is the reflection of this activity and tends to show how intensely the great country that is tributary to Kansas City is interested in cattle production. The cattle situation was never in better shape than at present. Through the efforts of the government and the livestock commission men and the producers cattle prices have been stabilized to considerable extent.

Rains in the great southwest where the drought of three years has been prevalent, has opened up markets here that have been virtually closed for the past two years. The demand for breeding cattle is as great as for beef animals and the government is calling for beef and more beef. Not

RESTRICTIONS ON INDUSTRIES ARE TO BE REMOVED

Automobiles, Farm Implements and Musical Instruments Among Favored Classes.

Washington.—As the first step in national industrial readjustment from a war to a peace basis, the war industries board has announced modifications in the restrictions against non-war construction and manufacturing.

All industries whose peace time output has been curtailed in the interest of the nation's war programme may now increase their output 50 per cent of the amount of restriction imposed by the board, while all restrictions are removed against the building of farm or ranch buildings, structures, roadways or plant facilities for railroads, railways and other public utilities and the construction, maintenance, improvement or development by federal, state or municipal authorities of highways, roads, boulevards, bridges, streets, parks, playgrounds and public utilities, including water, sewerage, light, power and street railways.

Forty-two specific industries, chief among them the passenger automobile industry, are affected by the modifications of curtailments imposed on manufacturers since the war began. They include: agricultural implements and farm operating equipment, including tractors.

Heating and cooking appliances and devices using coal, coke, wood, gas, oil and gasoline and electricity, boilers and radiators, family sewing machines, electric vacuum cleaners, metal beds, cots and couches, including bunks and metal springs, linoleum and rag felt floor covering, black galvanized and enameled ware and tin plate household utensils.

For Sale.

10 acre timber, lots of walnut and saw logs. Timber mostly bottom land, close to Butler. Priced to sell. J. A. Burda.